

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12 April 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: TSD Requirement for ASTIA Support

1. In order to acquire background knowledge of the Armed Services Technical Information Agency (ASTIA), I contacted Captain Burns W. Spore, Office of Special Operations, Office of Secretary of Defense, on 10 April 1961. Captain Spore had very little knowledge of the organization, but advised me that Mr. [REDACTED] of CIA (Liaison Branch, Liaison Collection Division, Office of Central Reference) normally accomplishes liaison with ASTIA.

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2. Although Mr. [REDACTED] has occasional contacts with ASTIA, he in turn referred me to a Mr. [REDACTED] Chief of the Circulation Branch, CIA Library. Mr. [REDACTED] processes all requests for publications from the Agency to ASTIA.

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3. A discussion with Mr. [REDACTED] established that ASTIA publishes twice monthly the Technical Abstract Bulletin. This bulletin lists military contracts and research reports which have been completed for the military services. TSD receives two copies of the Technical Abstract Bulletin. Further, Mr. [REDACTED] established that TSD is already a heavy user of ASTIA reports. This information limits the problem contained in the TSD memorandum to a determination of whether ASTIA classified reports can be released to Agency contractors. Currently, it appears that distribution of these reports should be governed by the same security criteria as any classified document received from the military services, i.e., once in Agency custody, it is incumbent upon the Agency to safeguard the information in accordance with its classification.

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4. Due to the nature of the ASTIA organization, it seems advisable, however, to further investigate whether this assumption is true and to determine whether special handling of ASTIA reports is required. Mr. [REDACTED] furnished me with the name of Franklin E. Jordan, Chief, Public Relations, ASTIA. After determining that Mr. Jordan is a cleared contact through Agency security, I propose to confer with him in order to determine the requirement for special handling of ASTIA reports.

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